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Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-first session

Draft report

Rapporteur Mr. Ayman M. **Elgammal** (Egypt)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

(Item 4 (a))

Section 12. Environment

1. At its 13th meeting, on 19 June 2001, the Committee considered section 12, Environment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the programme of work envisaged under the section.

4. The view was expressed that more information was needed on the relationship between outputs and indicators of achievement and their consequent measurement. It was further noted that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement did not reflect entirely those contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It was suggested that a comparison of the outputs approved for the 2000-2001 biennium and those proposed for the 2002-2003 biennium and an analysis of the shifts in the outputs would be helpful.

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5. The view was also expressed that the narrative under Executive direction and management should have included an indication of objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement, external factors and the related outputs.

6. It was observed that extrabudgetary resources represented 96.2 per cent of the total resources for the section, and concern was expressed at the effect that such dependency might have on the implementation of the priorities decided upon by intergovernmental organs.

7. Support was expressed for the increased resources proposed under the section. Support was expressed for the work of UNEP in environmental assessment and early warning as well as for UNEP publications, particularly the *Global Environment Outlook*. It was stated that use of the UNEP web site and its consequent improvement should be encouraged. A view was expressed that appropriate resources should be dedicated to desertification and reforestation.

8. It was considered that the proposals relating to the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation should reflect the decisions of General Assembly resolution 55/121 of 8 December 2000. It was also observed that expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement were not provided for that Committee.

9. The view was expressed that the Malmö Declaration did not provide a mandate.

10. It was considered that the reference to global environmental governance needed to be justified by an indication of the relevant mandate.

Conclusions and recommendations

11. The Committee noted that the Secretary-General had yet to submit a report elaborating on the "Global Compact", and given that pending action, decided to defer consideration of the issue to its forty-second session.

12. The Committee recommended that every effort be made to ensure stability and predictability in funding the activities of UNEP.

13. The Committee noted the reinforcement of the executive direction and management compared with the programme of work and recommended that the General Assembly review that question.

14. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 12, Environment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Delete the phrase "global compact" from the narrative part of section 12.

Paragraph 12.21

In the second sentence, replace the words "collection, analysis and interpretation of data" with the words "collection and analysis of data".

In the third sentence, after the words "reporting arrangements" add the following words "invited it to submit its programme of work to the Assembly".

At the end of the last sentence, add the words "in consultation with scientists and experts from interested Member States".

Table 12.10

Insert a new expected accomplishment as follows: "(e) The implementation of a new strategic environmental law programme for the first decade of the millennium".

Insert a new indicator of achievement as follows: "(e) The adoption by the Governing Council of a new strategic environmental law programme".

Table 12.14

Insert a new expected accomplishment as follows: "(f) Adherence to the goals of the International Declaration on Cleaner Production".

Insert a new indicator of achievement as follows: "(f) The number of signatures to the International Declaration on Cleaner Production".